

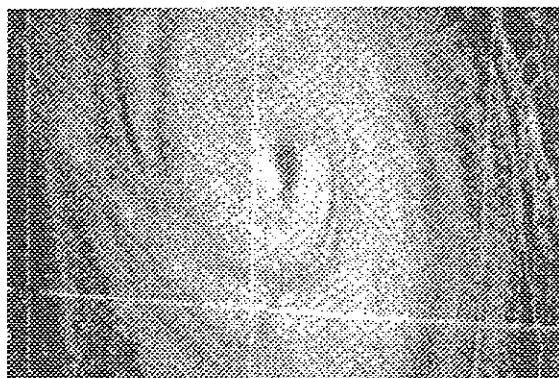
*The Tarheel*

# Minuteman

SPECIAL EDITION

SEPTEMBER 9, 1996

## HURRICANE *FRAN*



# North Carolina National Guard Answers Call For Disaster Relief

As of 6 a.m. Sept. 10, the National Guard had received over 300 missions from the State Emergency Response Team (SERT) to assist communities in the wake of Hurricane Fran.

National Guard troop strength grew to over 1,800 soldiers and airmen with the addition of 100 Guard members activated to assist in debris removal and security in Johnston County.

Soldiers and airmen have been on duty since Thursday. Originally, the Governor authorized 750 troops to be used on State Active Duty, but the authorization for troops increased immediately as the severity of the situation escalated. The Guard is currently identifying additional personnel for sustainment operations.

"This is a perfect example of the citizen soldier, responding to the needs of the community following a disaster," said Major General Gerald A. Rudisill, Jr., the Adjutant General of the North Caro-

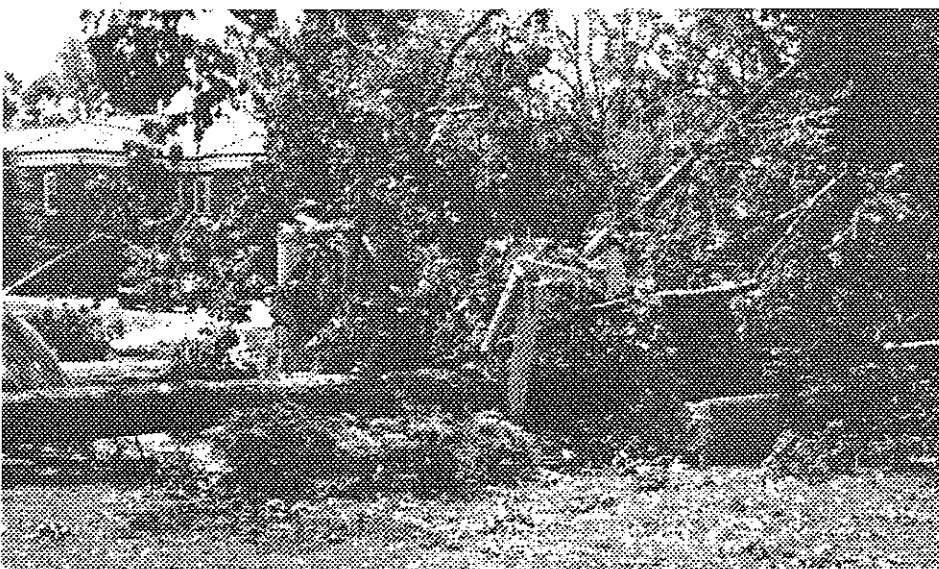
lina National Guard.

"Our soldiers and airmen are doing an outstanding job during a most difficult time."

A tent city is being established at the N.C. State Fairgrounds for commercial vendors arriving in town to assist with the disaster relief effort.

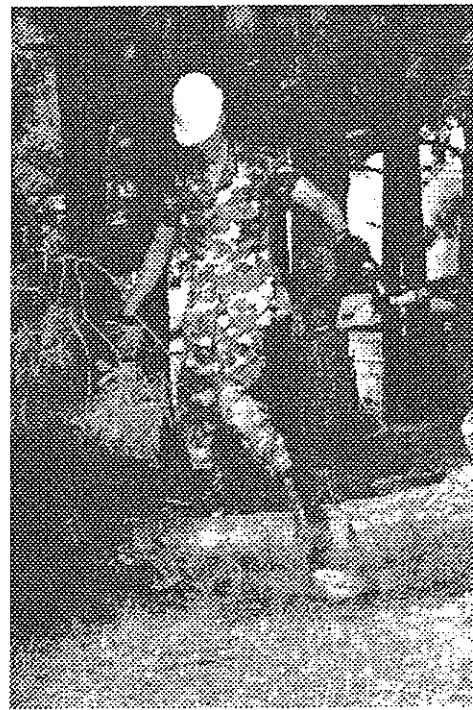
The tent city will house approximately 1000 personnel. The shelter will provide electricity, sleeping quarters, showers, and food for all occupants.

Soldiers and airmen from North Carolina, Florida, and Alabama National Guard units are erecting the tent city.



At the center of the Governor Morhead School for the Blind once stood a historic school bell (pictured above). The school bell, which has been ringing in Raleigh for 76 years, was only part of the damage suffered by the school. Soldiers from the National Guard's 505th Engineer Battalion spent September 7 and 8 helping the School with debris removal, before moving on to the North Carolina coast.

# SNAPSHOTS FROM AROUND THE STATE

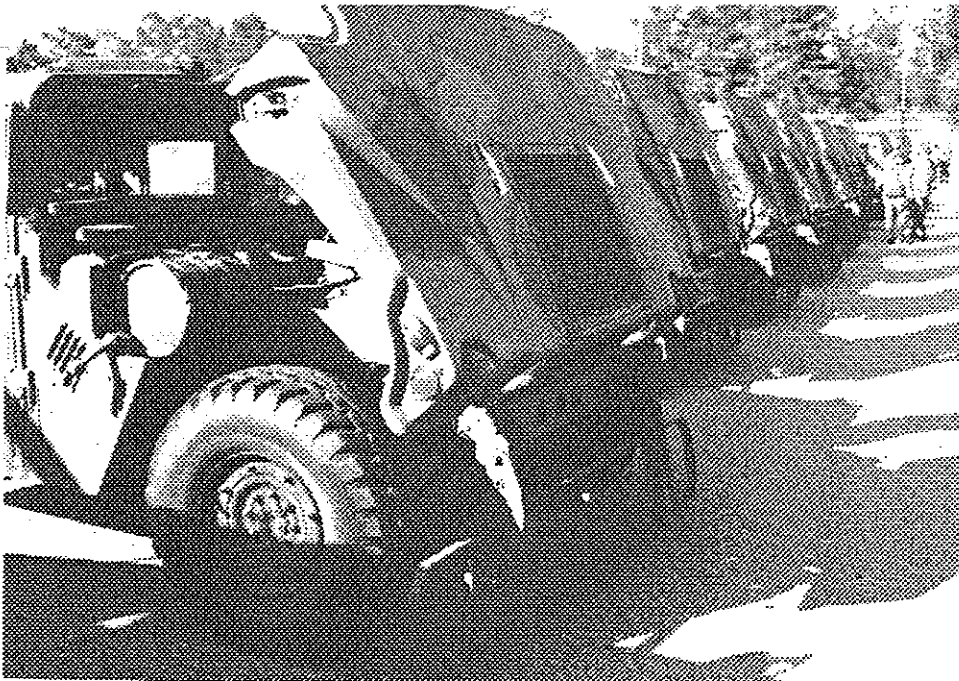
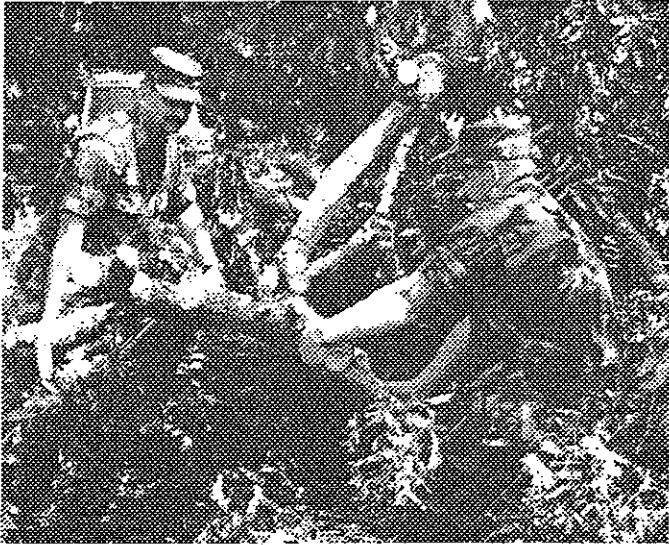


Among the North Carolina National Guard's assigned duties was debris removal, patrolling coastal areas, assisting law enforcement officers with manning check points and enforcing curfews.





# SNAPSHOTS FROM AROUND THE STATE

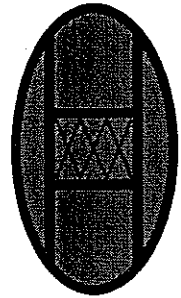


National Guard soldiers supplied power and water to emergency facilities. Transportation and shelter assets were also made available to communities as part of "Operation Fran." Lessons learned during hurricane Bertha, like communicating via cellular phones, could be employed during "Operation Fran"



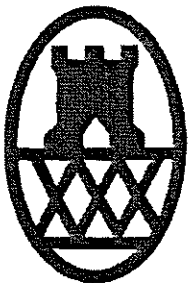
# **OPERATION FRAN**

**NORTH CAROLINA NATIONAL GUARD**



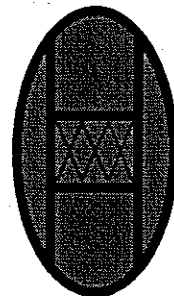
## **MISSION STATEMENT**

**PROVIDE AID AND COMFORT TO THE CITIZENS  
OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA WHILE  
CONDUCTING OPERATIONS TO PROTECT THE  
SAFETY OF LIFE AND PROPERTY DURING THE  
EMERGENCY AND RECOVERY.**



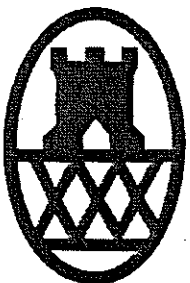


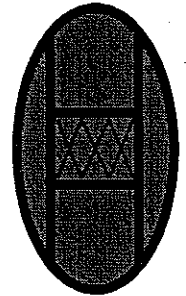
## **OPERATION FRAN N.C. NATIONAL GUARD RESPONSE**



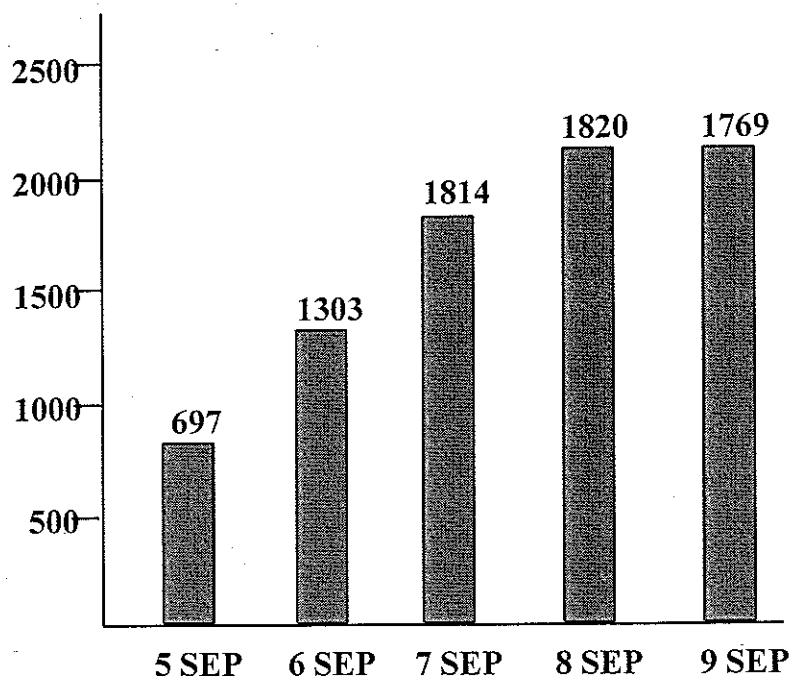
- NCNG CRISIS MANAGEMENT CENTER WAS ACTIVATED AT 1400 HRS, 5 SEPTEMBER 1996.
- THE FIRST TROOPS WERE DEPLOYED AT 1500 HRS, 5 SEPTEMBER 1996.
- BY 1600 HRS ON 6 SEPTEMBER, 1000 SOLDIERS AND AIRMAN HAD BEEN ACTIVATED.
- TODAY, MORE THAN 1700 MEMBERS OF THE NORTH CAROLINA NATIONAL GUARD ARE ON DUTY.
- THE TOP FIVE COUNTIES REQUESTING NCNG SUPPORT:

NEW HANOVER	400 PERSONNEL
PENDER	210 PERSONNEL
ONSLOW	200 PERSONNEL
WAKE	140 PERSONNEL
WAYNE	100 PERSONNEL

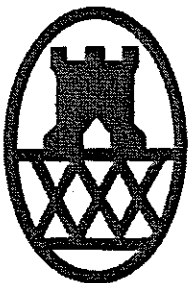




## **OPERATION FRAN TOTAL DUTY PERSONNEL BY DAY**

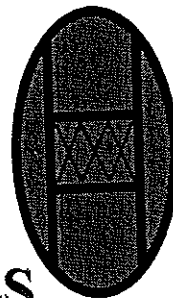


**AVERAGE COST PER SOLDIER/AIRMAN - \$80**



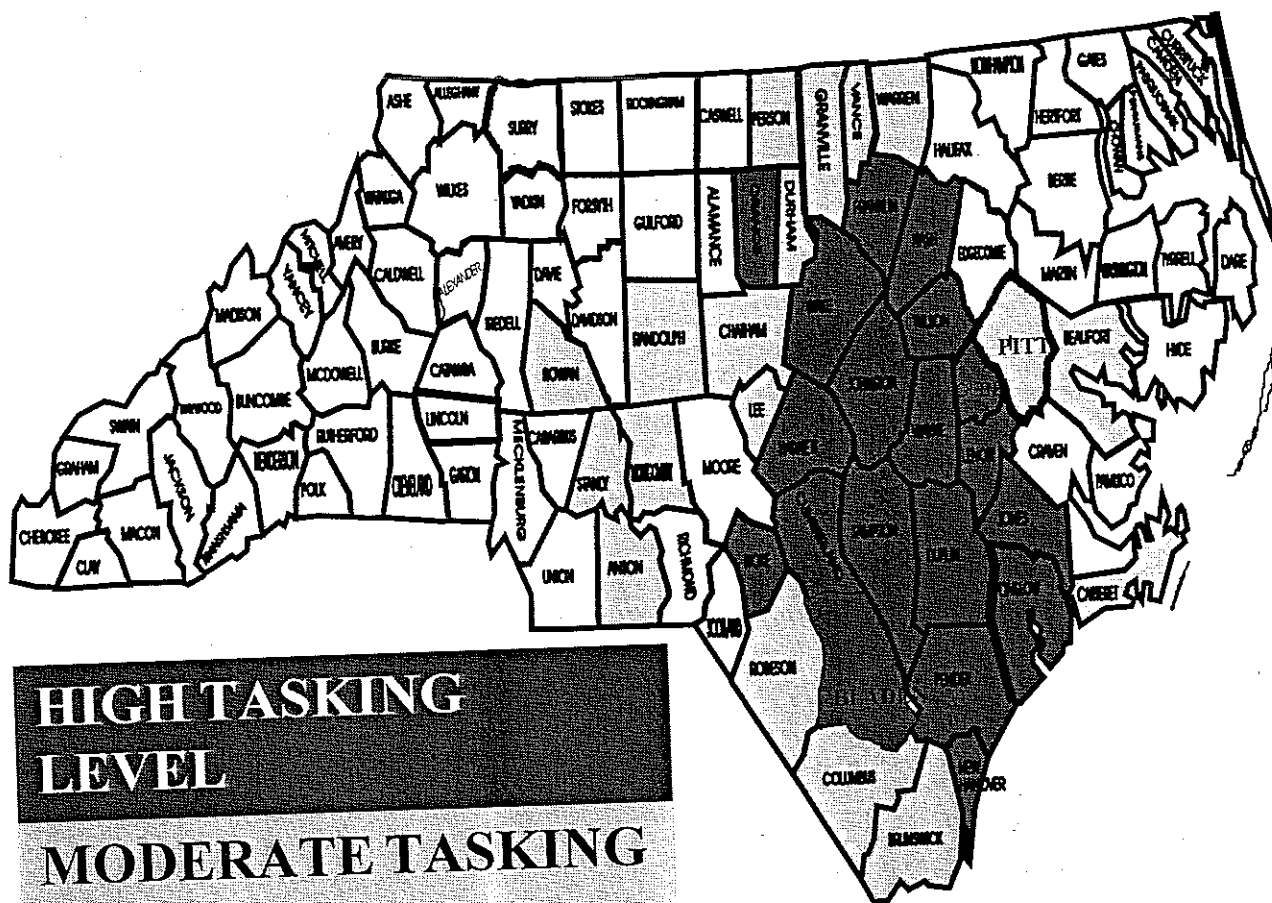
***ADDING VALUE TO THE COMMUNITY  
ONE SOLDIER/AIRMAN AT THE TIME***





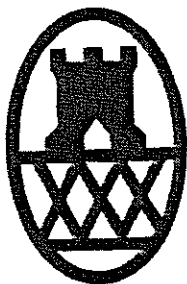
# OPERATION FRAN

## N.C. N.G. MISSION TASKING LEVELS



# HIGH TASKING LEVEL

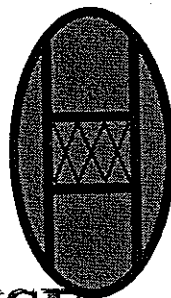
## MODERATE TASKING LEVEL





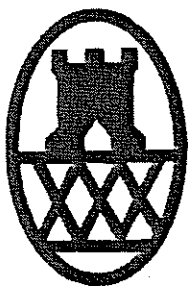


## OPERATION FRAN



### SIGNIFICANT EQUIPMENT IN USE

- GENERATORS
- WATER TRAILERS
- 5 TON TRUCKS
- DEBRIS CLEARING  
ENGINEER EQUIPMENT
- HELICOPTERS
- ALL TERRAIN VEHICLES
- CHAIN SAWS
- PIONEER TOOLS
- COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT



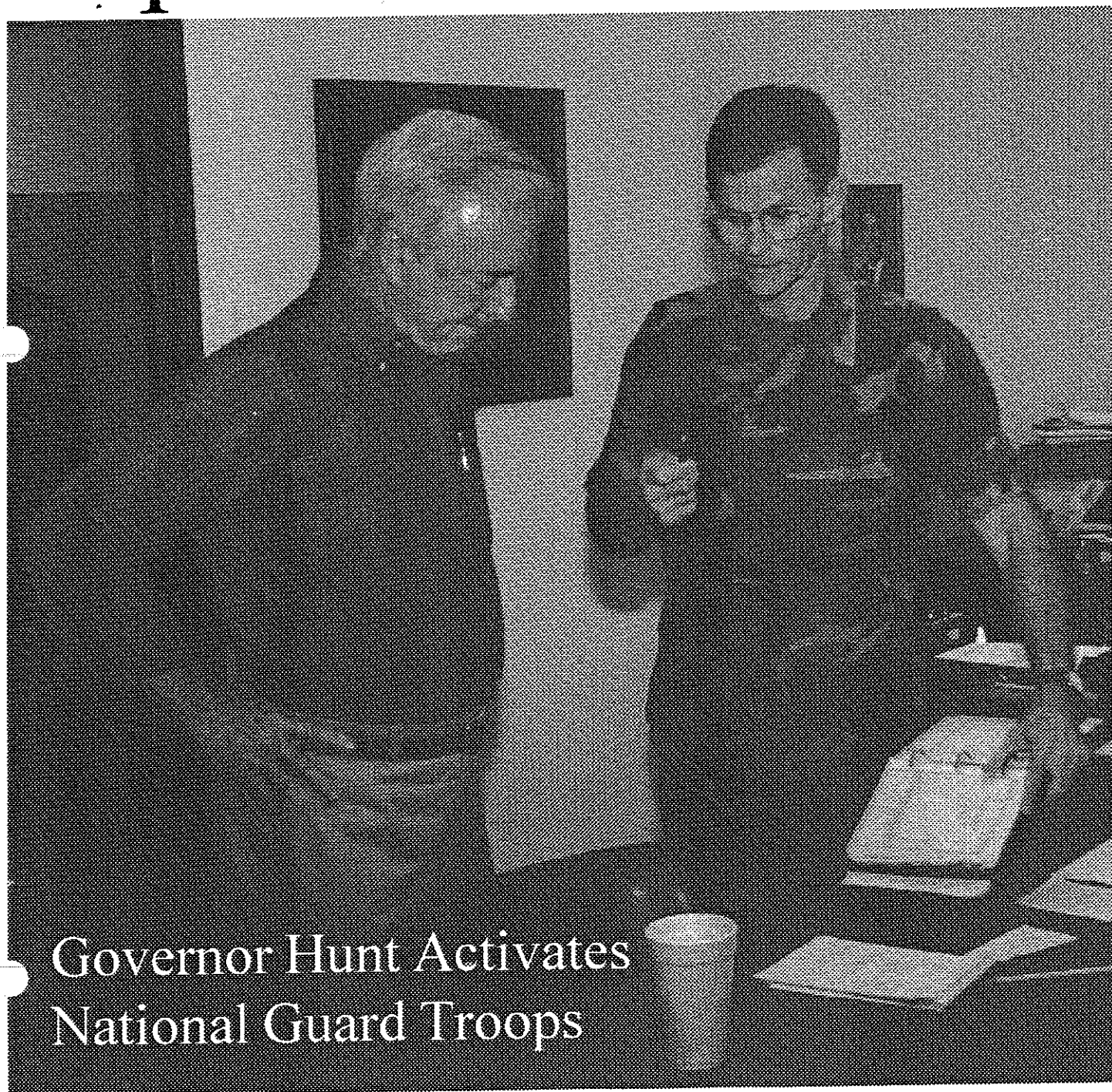
*The Tarheel*

# Minuteman

SPECIAL EDITION

SEPTEMBER 12, 1996

## "Operation *Fran*"



Governor Hunt Activates  
National Guard Troops

# National Guard soldiers called to duty in support of statewide clean-up effort

Governor James Hunt called an additional 1,000 North Carolina National Guard soldiers on duty to help in recovery operations in Wake County after Hurricane Fran.

This brings the total troop strength to over 2,500, representing nearly 50 units from across the state.

National Guard soldiers and airmen have been on duty since Thursday, Sept. 5, assisting state emergency management agencies in providing security, generator support, water supply, debris removal, damage assessment and more.

"The citizens of North Carolina can be proud knowing that the National Guard is on the job and supporting state agencies and recovery operations," said Major General Gerald A. Rudisill, Jr., the Adjutant General for North Carolina. "The soldiers are highly motivated and take pride in assisting the people in need."

The Guard has received in excess of 400 missions assisting communities in the



Soldiers head for one of the 106 Wake County schools receiving National Guard assistance.

40 North Carolina counties that have been declared disaster areas.

Units reporting for involuntary state active duty today include 382nd Public Affairs Detachment (Raleigh); 440th Army Band (Morrisville); 505th Engineer Battalion (Gastonia); 732nd Maintenance Company (Roxboro); 1450th Transportation Battalion (Jefferson, Lenoir); Detachment 1, Headquarters 230th Support Battalion (Raleigh), Company A, 230th Support Battalion (Durham), and 130th Finance Battalion (Morrisville).

The National Guard is authorized under state statute to respond with troops and equipment to natural disaster situations. Missions are given to the Guard based on local emergency management agency assessment. Valid requests are transmitted through the Emergency Management System to the State Emergency Response Team. The SERT determines which agency can handle the request and, if necessary, the National Guard is called upon.

# School for the blind gets help from National Guard

Over 100 North Carolina National Guard soldiers of the 505th Engineer Battalion started voluntary clean-up operations in Raleigh on Sept. 6.

The soldiers of Company B started removing debris at a time when nearly 3,000 soldiers have been put on state active duty.

Company B began by conducting a clean-up mission at one of the hardest hit areas, the Governor Morehead School for the Blind.

They used heavy equipment, chainsaws and 920 flat bed trailers to remove debris.

"We are authorized to clear the school's roadways and parking lots of the debris and trees," said CPT Michael Bowen, Commander of Company B, 505th Engineer bat-

talion.

According to Bowen, his unit will remain at the school until they push their way out of all the rubble.

The hurricane has proved to be very powerful and destructive to many people and their possessions.

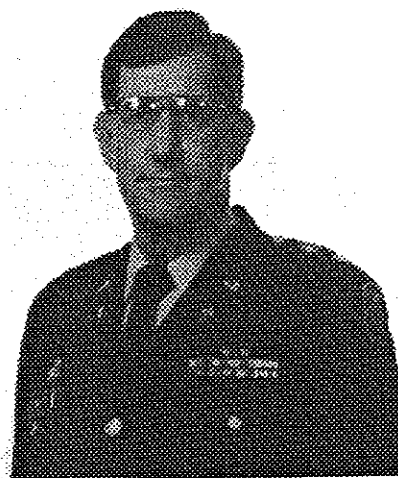
"I've seen this kind of damage

before, but when it hits your hometown or area, it gives you a different kind of feeling," Bowen said.

After the 505th soldiers complete operations at the Morehead campus, they will move on to other areas in need of help.

The 505th Engineers are joined by hundreds of other National Guard soldiers from across the state in clean-up efforts following Hurricane Fran.

*"I've seen this kind of damage before, but when it hits your hometown or area, it gives you a different kind of feeling."*



## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

**CH (LTC) Richard G. Poindexter,  
State Chaplain**

On behalf of the Chaplains, let me thank the troops for the outstanding efforts they are now doing for communities in need.

Our efforts are a way of saying we care about people. This is a superb way of representing the North Carolina National Guard.

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*The Tarheel Minuteman* is produced by members of the 382d Public Affairs Detachment, covering the men and women of the North Carolina Army National Guard.

# Local resident supports troops housed at North Carolina State Fairgrounds

In the wake of Hurricane Fran's destruction, National Guard troops from across the state were called in to help the citizens of North Carolina rebuild their communities.

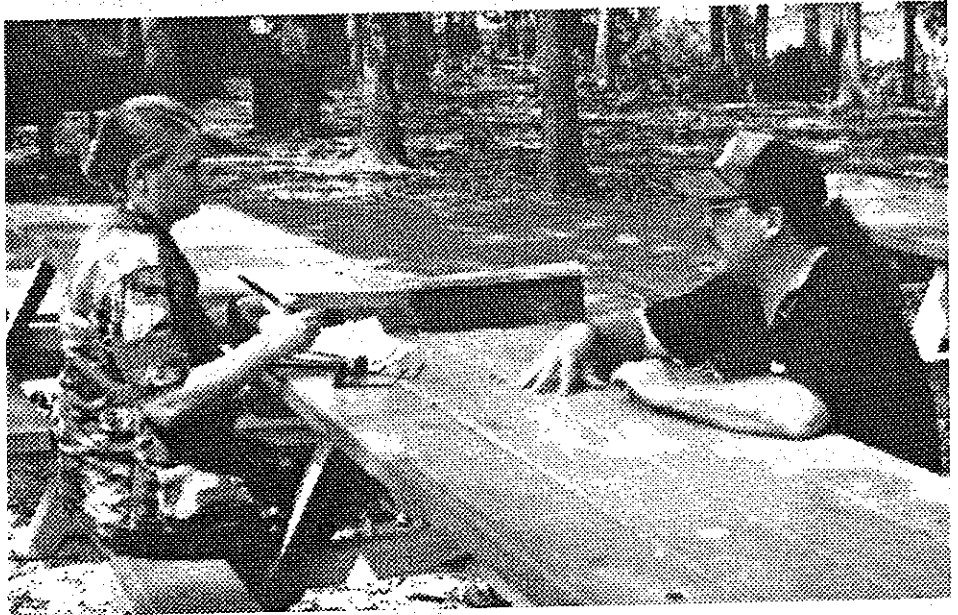
With that came the cumbersome task of finding a place to house and feed the more than 3,000 soldiers mobilized as part of "Operation Fran."

Joe Crosby, Resident Manager of the L.R. Harrel Youth Center, was made aware of the potential housing problem and offered his facilities as a solution.

The L.R. Harrel Youth Center, located at the N.C. State Fairgrounds, is typically available to 4-H Youth camps, Boy Scouts and various other nonprofit groups.

But on Friday, Sept. 6, it became the dining facility for 450 National Guard soldiers setting up camp at the fairgrounds.

"Most of those troops were from the 505th Engineer Battalion, 210th and 211th Military Police companies," Crosby said. "Most of those soldiers had no knowledge of their final destination."



**PFC Karen Nickles of the 382d MPAD in Raleigh talks with Joe Crosby about his efforts to help support the National Guard.**

"They have been wonderful," he said. "Their spirits are high. They are polite, helpful and courteous."

"They had to clear the roadways to get their equipment out here and that worked out for me too. They supplied power to my house and the dining facility, and in return I am washing BDUs for them."

Crosby's house, which sits on the L.R. Harrel Youth Center grounds, suffered damage. He and his wife, Jenny, rode the storm out in the dining facility and managed to escape with no injuries.

"(The National Guard) has gone out of their way to

help us. They have been a blessing to me," Crosby said.

And the Guard has good things to say about Crosby too.

"We can't thank Mr. Crosby enough," said LTC Philip Juby, Chief Public Information Officer for the NCARNG. "In times like these, people pull together even when they don't have a lot to give. Mr. Crosby's generosity is essential to the success of the National Guard's mission which is getting the citizens of North Carolina back on their feet."

The facilities provided by Crosby have been augmented by a "tent city" erected by Florida National Guard troops.



# Safety First!

Many National Guard soldiers are using potentially dangerous equipment in support of recovery operations after Hurricane Fran.

Safety is a primary consideration when working on missions during Operation Fran: whether providing generator support, water supply, debris removal or security.

One soldier from the 505th Engineer Battalion knows firsthand how important safety issues are. He sustained injuries to his leg and hand while helping to remove debris from a "Fran-torn" area.

Had the soldier been wearing his leather gloves and standing a good distance away from trimming operations, the incident might not have occurred.

Safety gloves are available through supply channels, as are work gloves, hearing protection and construction-style hard hats. These personal protective items should be utilized by all tree trimming crews.

Stihl saw safety glasses are also available. These are less likely to fog under excessive heat/humidity conditions and will help saw operators see clearly.

Chainsaws produce noise levels exceeding 105 to 115 decibels. Exposure to these levels without the proper hearing protection can cause permanent hearing loss.

Protect yourself! Disposable foam ear plugs provide a 29 decibel reduction. All personnel working in noisy areas should wear hearing protection.

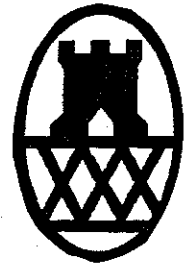
Don't forget. We're all in this together. You are responsible for your own safety and for your fellow soldiers' safety.

If you think an act is unsafe: question it. If you know an act is unsafe: stop it.

Safety starts with YOU!

## Engineers Clear The Way At 100-plus Area Schools

With chainsaws roaring and woodchips flying, 40 soldiers of Company B, 505th Engineers out of Kings Mountain helped clean up the grounds at Leroy Martin Middle School this morning.



They're one of 20 groups of National Guard troops working in the Wake County area to clear debris from over 100 area schools.

"Our mission is to get these schools back open," said 1LT Joseph Hough, Horizontal Section Platoon Leader. "The damage is overwhelming, but we're glad to be here."

Wake County is just one of 40 counties in North Carolina that suffered damage after Hurricane Fran ripped through the Tarheel state on Sept. 5. And the 505th Engineers is one of eight additional units called to state active duty Wednesday to reinforce the National Guard troop strength.

To date, over 3,000 soldier citizens have been called to duty to help rebuild Carolina communities.

"The men and women of the North Carolina National Guard have responded quickly and professionally in a time of crisis," said MG Gerald A. Rudisill, Jr., North Carolina State Adjutant General.

"A situation like this puts our readiness to the test, and I am proud to say our troops are passing with flying colors," he added.

# **Just the facts ...**

**Over 3,000 National Guard troops have been activated in support of Operation Fran. The following is a list of equipment and supplies in use for the operation.**

**Generators: 462**

**Chainsaws: 750**

**Chainsaw Bar Oil: 3,200 gallons**

**Chainsaw Engine Oil: 13,000 bottles**

**Vehicles: 510**

**(Including Dump Trucks, Wreckers, Forklifts, etc.)**

**Aircraft: 32**

**(Including C-130s, Blackhawks, Hueys)**

**Meals Ready to Eat: 9,600 to date**

**Bottled Water: 110,000 bottles**

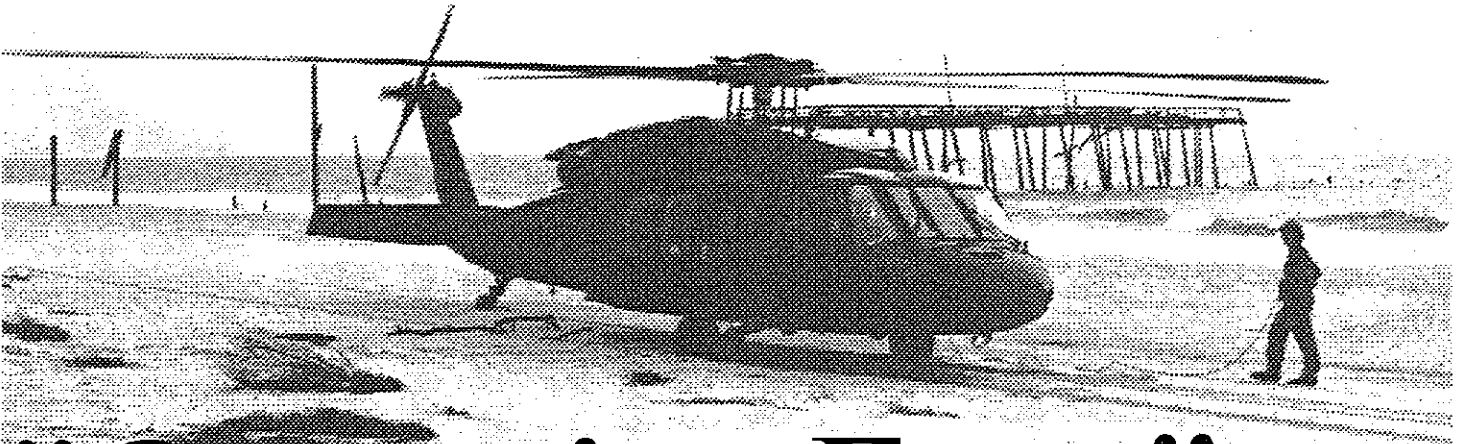
**Wake County Schools Cleared: 10 to date**

*The Tarheel*

# Minuteman

SPECIAL EDITION

SEPTEMBER 14, 1996



## "Operation Fran"

# Soldiers go beyond the call of duty

As Helen Morgan of Jacksonville, N.C., headed home after visiting family in Pennsylvania, she wondered what the aftermath of Hurricane Fran had left in store for her.

A turn onto Highway 53 near Burgaw took her down a dark, lonely road. All was black except for faint taillights from a lone car trailing off in the distance.

"All of a sudden (my) car started slowing and stalled, and I didn't know what to do," said Morgan, who was traveling with her three children and the family cat. Just as she started to scream, water engulfed the car.

Morgan began to panic and her children sensed that something was wrong. The water level was rising quickly. Morgan's primary concern was for the safety of her children.

She reached for Mila, 8, and Derrick, 4, first and successfully moved them to the car's roof. There was still Jay, 5, and the cat. She continued to cry out for assistance.

"I felt so desperate. I was just hoping someone would hear me," she recalled.

Luckily someone did. Two North Carolina National soldiers on their way to duty in Holly Ridge stopped to help.

"I heard kids screaming and hollering," said SFC Jeffrey Ferry, 113th Field Artillery Brigade Assistant Training NCO. "So, I immediately felt I needed to react."

Ferry and Pvt. Ronald Colbert jumped into action. Ferry grabbed the two children off of the roof of the car and

put them inside his vehicle, where Colbert was waiting to comfort them.

Then Ferry rescued Morgan, her remaining son and the cat.

"It hit home with me, I have two boys and one girl," Ferry said. "I was just doing what I hope someone would do for me and my wife."

When Morgan returned home, she found her house as she had left it. And thanks to the valiant efforts of two National Guard soldiers, she and her children survived an experience they'll not soon forget.

*"I heard kids screaming and hollering. So, I immediately felt I needed to react."*

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The *Tarheel Minuteman* is produced by members of the 382d Public Affairs Detachment, covering the men and women of the North Carolina Army National Guard.

# A soldier's story

## Guardsmen serves despite personal loss

By SGT James Jernigan

Fran's frantic fury knew no bounds as she pummeled the tortured Carolina Coast. Shattered dreams, flattened homes and destroyed possessions were flung upon what was left of the wind-swept beach.

Though Fran crushed the coast, she could not hinder hope. Even before she came ashore, some Tarheel Guardsmen were already mobilizing and on the way to help their fellow citizens.

PFC Jason Woodard of Goldsboro knew that he would be called upon to help. Even as Fran was lashing the sands, he left his home, hopped in a car and headed to his unit in Smithfield.

There, he joined up with his comrades from the 1/119th Infantry Battalion and readied himself for the call that was sure to come. The Governor called out 10,000 Guard soldiers that night. The soldiers of the unit were in Carolina and Kure beaches the next day.

The sun illuminated the devastating horror of the Hurricane of the decade. The first priority was to search for survivors, set up roadblocks and set up patrols to prevent looting.

SGT Bob Armbruster of Cary and Woodard set about their grim work on the sands. Though diligent in his duties, Woodard worried about his own small piece of the American Dream.

With home heavy on his mind, the hours

dragged by for Woodard.

The locals were ecstatic to see the Guard troops, for they knew that the Guard would protect whatever was left of their possessions from looters.

Assisting others made the wait easier.

Woodard's father finally reached him by telephone that night. While the son was doing his duty protecting others, Fran attacked. A tree found its mark and destroyed Woodard's home.

Possessions, clothing, home — all gone.

Now homeless with only the uniforms he brought with him, PFC Woodard persevered and moved on with his life. He did not whine, complain or attempt to return home on hardship leave to pick up the pieces of his life.

When asked by a visiting officer how had he personally fared in the hurricane, he simply and with quiet dignity stated, "I lost everything."

This young soldier and thousands of other N.C. National Guard personnel left home, work, families and possessions to try to make a positive difference in the lives of their fellow citizens.

It goes without saying that they have.

One hopes that the citizens of North Carolina realize the strength, the perseverance and willingness of Guard members to sacrifice their comfort, their spare time and even their lives, if need be.



National Guard soldiers delivered over 5,000 pounds of ice to communities declared disaster areas after Hurricane Fran.



# Infantry brigade first on the coast

By SGT James Jernigan

Advance units of the 30th Infantry Brigade were rushed to hurricane stricken areas just hours after Fran hit the coast Thursday, Sept. 5.

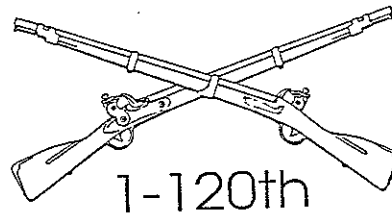
The 1/120th Infantry Battalion out of Wilmington was thrown into the breach early Friday morning to deter looters and help residents in need.

Many soldiers had storm damage at their own homes to worry about, but when duty called, 1/120th soldiers came running.

Soldiers helping to rebuild the coastal community worked 12-hour shifts. During the day, they manned road blocks and check points and helped direct traffic.

Night operations found Guardsmen on roofs with night vision goggles scanning the area. Quick reaction forces were on hand to stop looters. And others served as escorts for people coming off and on the island.

Excited troops mounted their vehicles and headed for the hurricane battle grounds of



Wrightsville, Kure, Topsail and Carolina beaches.

After a week of rain, fog, cold showers and 12-hour shifts, members of the 120th were ready to head home.

They were tired and longing for home cooking and a hot bath. Plus they needed to put their own damaged homes and property in order.

Thursday, Sept. 12, was foggy and wet. Most civilian aircraft were grounded, but the need for the citizens was great.

Air National Guard C-130s took to the air to bring in elements of the 1/113th Field Artillery and 1/119th Infantry Battalions out of Charlotte.

The gray birds of mercy emerged from the leaden sky at the Wilmington Airport head-

ing for the runway, lined with camouflaged vehicles. Soldiers from Charlotte and the mountains emerged from the transports sporting grins and ready to do what they could for their beach-comber brethren.

SPC Robert Cooper of Charlotte came off the 40-minute flight with a wide grin and eyes to match. It was his first call to state active duty, and he was eager to get to it.

Veteran 1SG Frank Biers, also of Charlotte, was on his fourth general mobilization - but the first in eight years.

Scurrying around to get his troops assembled, Biers said he was "ready to go work." 2LT David Crawford of Monroe, an incoming student from N.C. State University, assembled his unit and prepared them for a briefing.

An officer from the 119th Infantry who had been on the ground for a week welcomed the incoming troops with an initial briefing.

Continued on next page

# Safety First!

Take precautions  
when using chainsaws

*By MAJ Sam Arrington*

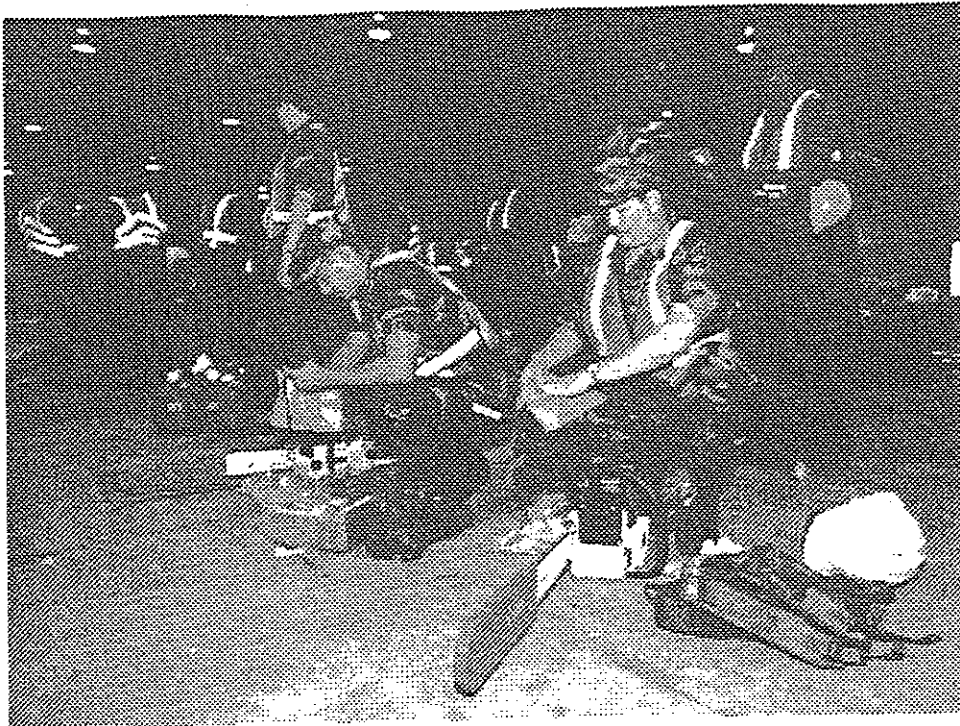
We have fielded 750 various chainsaws. Along with those saws, gloves, hard hats, safety glasses and hearing protection were issued as an integral part of the chainsaw safety package.

If you or a fellow soldier do not have these items and you are on a chainsaw tree removal team, see your first line supervisor and have them request the items through supply channels.

They are available. You should have them and use them.

With so many saws in operation statewide, the potential for accidents is enormous. Ensure that only experienced operators use the saws.

If need be, conduct on-the-job training for less experienced personnel. Use the safety equipment provided. And use old-fashioned common sense and the buddy system when conducting your assigned



**Soldiers safely prepare their equipment before moving out.**

missions.

Some saws have had the chainbreak bar bolt vibrate loose and the chainbreak safety feature was rendered inoperable.

If your chainsaw has any safety feature that does not work, the saw is deadlined! Period.

Do not use the saw. Return it to supply channels to the Crisis Management Center, and it will be replaced.

You - the soldier - are our most important asset. Your ability to carry out this mission safely during this disaster relief is paramount.

Be a part of the safe guard team - the team goal is force protection!

Continued from previous page

He described the devastation in the Wrightsville Beach area. He also announced a 7 p.m. to 6 a.m. curfew.

Hurricane Fran may have won the battle, but from the determined looks of the Guardsmen and the stoic determination of the islanders, North Carolina will no doubt win the war.

**WORTH REPEATING**



"A good plan violently executed  
Now is better than a  
perfect plan next  
week."

—George S. Patton  
(1885-1945)  
U.S. general

# 210th MP company provides security at Raleigh base camp

About 50 citizen soldiers of the 210th Military Police Company were flown into Raleigh on two C-130 aircraft today to provide security for a National Guard base camp at the N.C. State Fairgrounds.

About 1,800 Guard men and women called to state active duty to help in recovery operations after Hurricane Fran have set up cots in the Jim Graham Building at the state fairgrounds. They will remain in the facility for the duration of their tour of duty.

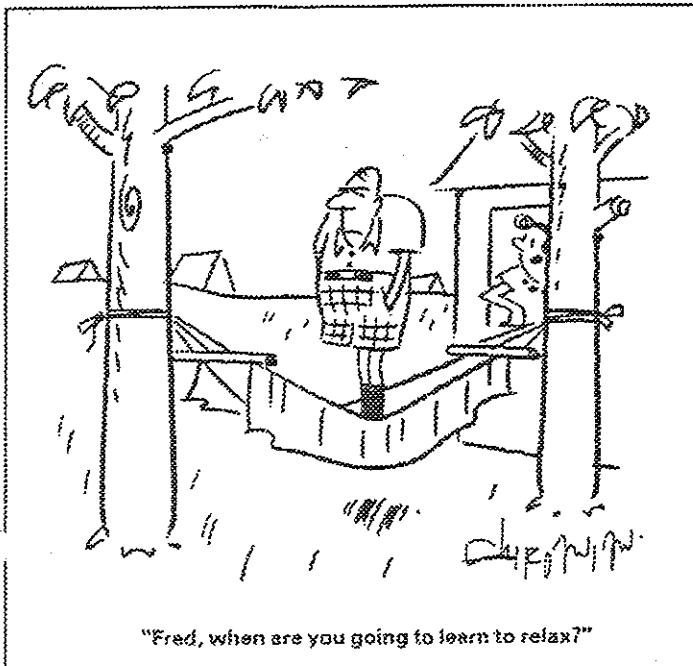
The group, with elements from Sylva, Franklin and Murphy, were joined by 70 other members of the 210th that drove in from Carolina Beach, where they have been providing security since Hurricane Fran hit the Carolina Coast.

Access to the fairgrounds will be controlled for both military and civilian personnel, ensuring the safety of military personnel and equipment.

**If you have story ideas about the National Guard men and women serving in Operation Fran, please contact the State Public Affairs Office at (919) 664-6242.**



**A soldier stretches out with the daily newspaper in the Jim Graham Building.**



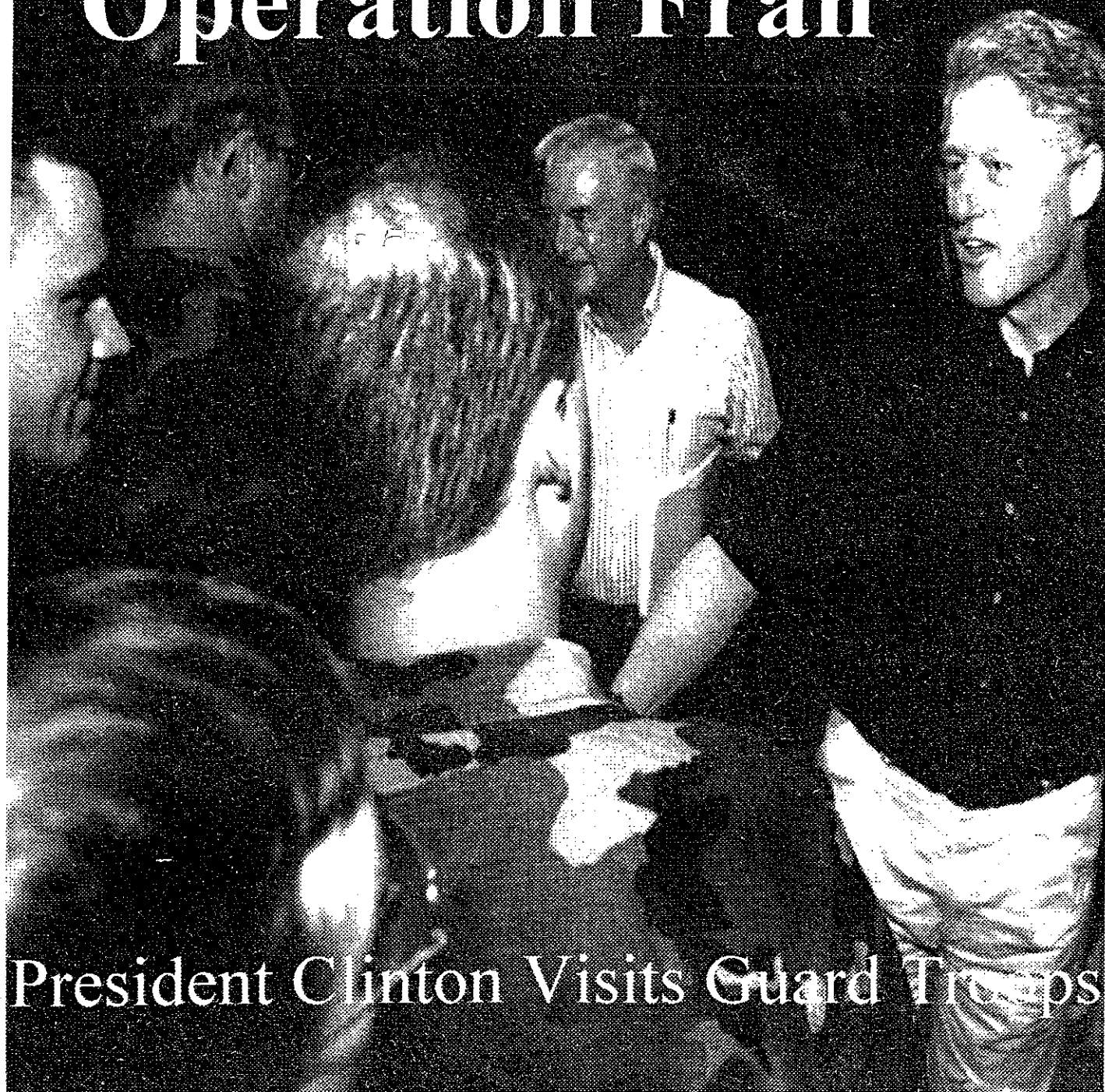
*The Tarheel*

# Minuteman

SPECIAL EDITION

SEPTEMBER 17, 1996

## "Operation Fran"



President Clinton Visits Guard Troops

# Clinton visits North Carolina to assess damages sustained from Hurricane Fran

President Bill Clinton met with North Carolinians Saturday to get a complete picture of the damage left from Hurricane Fran.

The President spent about an hour listening to damage cost estimates and stories of personal loss. A crowd of about 300, including National Guard troops, were in attendance.

The meeting was held at the Jim Graham Building at the N.C. State Fairgrounds, which has become home to nearly 2,000 National Guard troops helping to clean up Wake County schools.

"This is the worst disaster this state has ever had," Gov. Jim Hunt told President Clinton. "It's the fifth presidential declared disaster in one year ... We need every bit of help we can get."

Clinton listened to reports from citizens most involved with the storm including an American Red Cross official, James Lee Witt (FEMA), Billy Ray Cameron (NC Dept. Emergency Management), Doug Culbreth (NC Energy Division) and Hurricane victims.

"Like many Americans, I

followed the course of the Hurricane and the storms very closely," Clinton said. "I want to thank all of you who have worked so hard ... I believe if we can perform over the next few weeks as well as the people of North Carolina have over the past week, we'll be able to recover from this."

Gov. Hunt spoke about the work that is still ahead for North Carolinians.

"We are now turning the corner, but it's a long, hard road. But I can see the light at the end," he said.

Witt reported that Fran had destroyed 3,750 homes and damaged over 16,000. He said the recovery operations have been a team effort.

"We could not do our job without the state emergency officials, the National Guard and the people of North Carolina," he said.

Between Hurricanes Fran and Bertha, Hunt estimates the damage at as much as \$6 billion dollars.

"The agricultural damage is around \$625 million. The forestry damage is around approximately \$1/2 billion," he



added.

Clinton responded to the needs of North Carolina by saying he will do all that he can. "I will do exactly what you ask. We want to be a good partner, friend and neighbor," he said.

Following the meeting, President Clinton made his way through the crowd shaking the hands of civilians and soldiers alike.

"I think it was really nice of the president to come and evaluate the devastation we had," said SGT Dennis Oakes, Det. 1, 1450th Transportation Company out of Lenoir. "I think the meeting went well and a lot was accomplished," he added.

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The *Tarheel Minuteman* is produced by members of the 382d Public Affairs Detachment, covering the men and women of the North Carolina National Guard.



# 210th MPs secure site for presidential visit

*By SPC Dwight Green*

As soldiers loaded into the hollow rear entrance of the C-130 to return home, one member paused and turned around to look out upon the airstrip and remaining troops.

With a big grin on his face, the soldier bellowed out to them, "Job well done, but it's time to go home!"

SSG Timothy Lunsford, Mess Sergeant for the 210th Military Police was excited and proud of his unit and himself for the outstanding job they did during "Operation Fran."

The MP unit boarded an Air Guard C-130 Sunday morning to travel back to their homes in the western part of North Carolina. They had been separated from their families since Sept. 6, the day after the hurricane pummeled the coastal and Piedmont areas of the state.

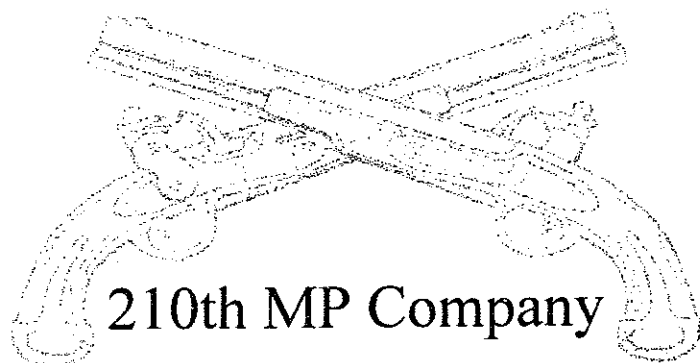
About 75 soldiers from the 210th MP Company in Sylva traveled eight hours to North Topsail Beach by Humvees and trucks on Friday after the storm to set up security operations. The soldiers patrolled the beaches and areas hit hardest to prevent looting and enforce a 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. curfew.

On Friday, Sept. 13, the 50 remaining soldiers of the 210th MP Company, were flown to Raleigh to assist the U.S. Secret Service with security preparations before President Bill Clinton's arrival.

"No National Guard unit in the country has ever assisted the Secret Service Agency," said SSG Lee Presnell, Readiness NCO for the company. "The situation presented itself, and we accepted the challenge."

The President was scheduled to speak to soldiers at the Jim Graham Agriculture Building after viewing the damaged areas of Wake County. The 210th MPs played an important part in securing the Graham Building. The 75 soldiers in North Topsail Beach were reassigned to Raleigh to help form a larger security force.

"We helped the Secret Service agents with securing the grounds around the fairground, and searched personnel and equipment before they could enter the area near the building," said SGT Allen Biller, a team leader with the 210th.



"It was great working firsthand with the Secret Service," Biller said. "Word got back to us that they were very pleased with our performance."

Biller, along with two other sergeants in the 210th, also had the distinct honor of shaking the Commander-In-Chief's hand after he finished his speech at the Graham Building.

"It was a great honor," he said. "The greatest since being in the military."

SSG Bobby Rathbone, First Cook for the 210th and a 15-year veteran of the N.C. National Guard, was so excited about shaking the President's hand that he vowed not to wash his hand until his family and friends were able to see it.

The soldiers of the 210th MP Company have been called to duty many times in the last six years. They were involved with the 101st Airborne Rangers and fought along side them in southern Iraq during the Gulf War. The MPs were also called to state active duty to provide security during Hurricane Hugo and to assist snowbound civilians in the mountains.

## Thank You!

A special word of thanks to the employers of the NCNG men and women helping to rebuild our community.

# Task Force 122 assists NCNG clean-up effort

By SGT Tripp Hutto

382d MPAD, SC

If you pull into the N.C. State Fairgrounds, don't expect the typical collage of rides, music, cotton candy, elephant ears and hot dogs.

You won't smell animals from the petting zoo. And you won't see mothers and fathers desperately trying to control their children and the friends they agreed to chaperone for an evening of fun and junk food.

Quite the contrary -- the rides at the fair have been substituted with hundreds of military and civilian tactical and engineer vehicles and the music has been replaced with the roar of their

engines.

The booths that held all of the "fair food" have been replaced with tents, temporary mobile homes and a couple of mess halls.

The only family you'll find at the fairgrounds now is one of disaster relief -- military units from North Carolina and neighboring states along with civilian local, state and national disaster relief teams all in support of North Carolina and its recovery operations for Hurricane Fran.

South Carolina barely escaped Hurricane Fran's fury, but North Carolina became the object of it as she hit the North Carolina coastline and ripped her way

inland leaving a path of destruction felt across the state.

On Sept. 11, South Carolina's Governor David Beasley signed an Executive Order requiring the Adjutant General of South Carolina, MG Stanhope S. Spears, to call personnel and equipment of the South Carolina National Guard to state active duty.

The next day, 300 members of the 122nd Engineer Battalion located in Edgefield, Batesburg and Graniteville and

the 178th Engineer Battalion of Bishopville, S.C., set out for Raleigh with two main objectives: to get power back to the citizens of the state and to clear debris at area schools so classes could resume.

"When you first drive into Raleigh you wonder where the hurricane hit," said 2LT Charles Pickens, First Platoon Leader, B Company, 122nd Engineer Battalion. "Once you get back here in the neighborhoods, where the schools are, you see where Fran hit and you see she hit hard."

Task Force 122, as the South Carolina group has been designated, is removing debris from local schools in Raleigh. "There are 93 public schools in this area," said MAJ Tim Miller, Battalion Executive Officer for TF 122. "We are currently working seven of those sites with 14 assigned and two completed. Everything is going as well or better as can be expected."

Pickens said the morale is high among the troops. "Everyone is working hard. There are no injuries, and we are making great progress at each of the sites."

With sweat drenched shirts and smiles on determined looking faces, TF 122 plugs away at a steady pace. The debris slowly begins to disappear with the help of chainsaws, 5-ton trucks, front-end loaders and good old elbow grease.

"Hey, this is what we are here for," said SPC Chris Kollmann, a combat engineer from Columbia. "We are doing a fine job and working well together. We got a lot of help from neighboring states during Hugo. I know if Fran would have hit us, North Carolina would do the same for us."



SPC Coleman Drakeford of the 178th Engineers cuts into a tree that toppled over during the hurricane.

# Spirit of the Minuteman lives

## South Carolina Guard helps neighbor state after Fran



Members of Charlie Company, 122d Engineer Battalion located in Graniteville, S.C., clear debris at Longview School in Wake County.

*By SGT Tripp Hutto  
382d MPAD, SC*

"Do you remember how in the old days when someone's house or barn would burn, the whole town would grab a bucket and come to help?" asks CPT Thomas Bentley, Company Commander of Company C, 178th Engineer Battalion.

"That is where the lineage of the 'Minuteman' came to life and what we represent in the South Carolina National Guard," he continued.

The "do you remembers" is the driving force for the 178th Engineers of Batesburg, S.C., part of Task Force 122 in Raleigh assisting in the relief operations of Hurricane Fran.

"I was involved in Hurricane Hugo back in 1989 when it hit South Carolina," said Bentley,

a resident of Clarks Hill, S.C. "We appreciated the help we received and so do the North Carolina citizens."

The South Carolina Guardsmen have been welcomed in Raleigh with open arms. "Our soldiers' morale is very high," said SGT Angel Figueroa, a member of the 178th Engineer. "The public is supporting us in every way possible. They have been bringing us cookies to snack on during our breaks."

Bentley said everyone within talking distance thanks soldiers and asks if there is anything needed.

"This is the type of peacetime operation that brings the community and the National Guard together.

"The adults and their children look out their windows or drive by and they see us working

and helping. Then when they take time to stop and say thanks, it's the ultimate morale booster for my troops."

The 178th has been steadily plugging away at the debris at Douglass Elementary School trying to clear the grounds so that kids can begin classes again.

"Hurricane Fran was devastating for us," said Gary Gammill, principal of Douglass Elementary.

"Our children will have to make up five days of classes somewhere down the road, but it could have been worse. As far as the help the National Guard has given us - we love it. We couldn't have done it without them."

Operation Fran exemplifies cooperation among states, Bentley said. "It also shows the diversity of the National Guard. As 'minutemen,' we are unique in that we serve a dual function with state and federal missions. Situations such as these are what separates us from the active components."

Hurricane Fran left a challenge as a calling card, bringing into play many things not commonplace between the civilian economy and the military, such as working together and sharing equipment.

And the "Interstate Agreement" allows National Guard units from other states such as South Carolina to be ordered to state active duty to assist another state in a time of need.

South Carolina is just one of several states that have come to the aid of North Carolinians. Other states include Kentucky, Florida and Georgia.

The spirit of the Minuteman still lives.

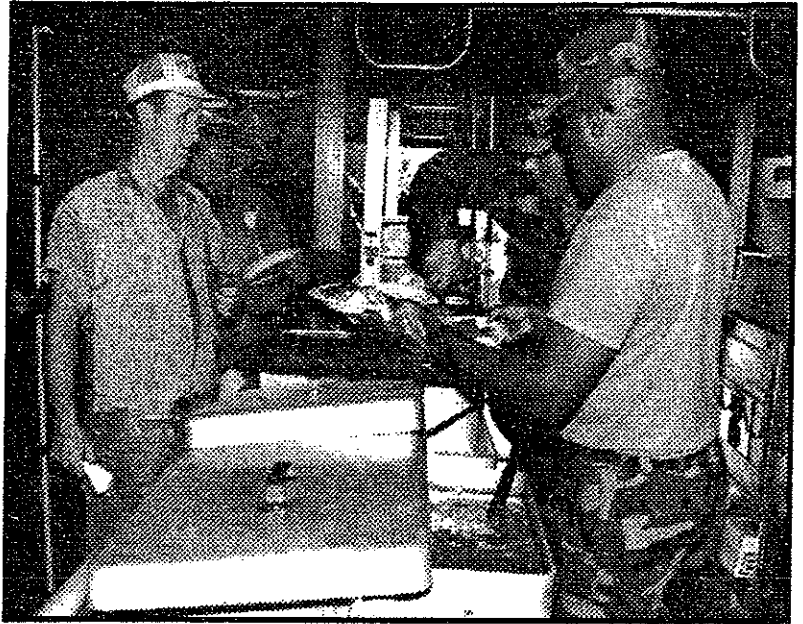
# Think Safety!

The response of the North Carolina National Guard for disaster relief has been ongoing for over 10 days. All of our crews have been working long, hard hours.

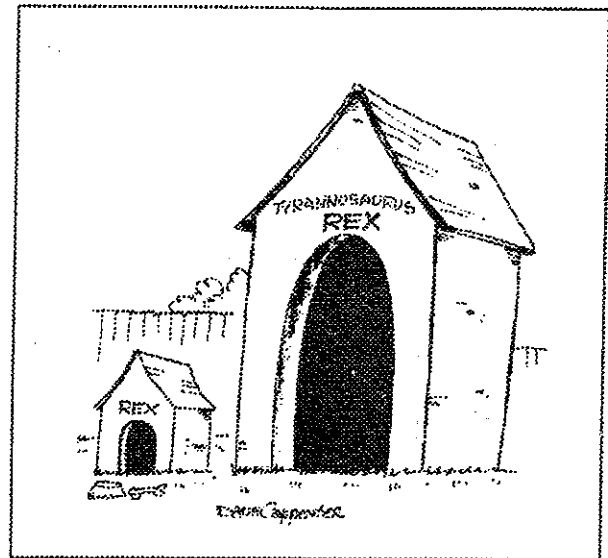
- **VEHICLE SAFETY**- Commanders and supervisors need to be sure the work force is given the adequate crew rest per OTAGNCR 385-10, which states: each driver and assistant driver are required to have 8 hours of rest for every 10 hours of driving during a 24 hour period. All vehicles should be operated with headlights on (Service Drive mode). All vehicle occupants shall use seat belts. Riding on the exterior of the vehicle is prohibited. It is extremely dangerous to drive through water of an unknown depth. The area could be washed out, rising water could overcome the vehicle not to mention that the water in areas has become contaminated by failed waste water treatment plants, flooded septic systems, dead animals, etc.

- **WORKPLACE SAFETY**- There have been at least two recent civilian fatalities resulting from individuals being struck by falling trees. If you are on a chain saw brush clearing team and you question the safety of clearing or trimming of a tree, leave it alone. Professional tree removal services can remove it later. A civilian was electrocuted Sept. 15, while working around his home near live power lines. Now that power is being restored to most of our area, be extremely cautious when working near power lines. Notify a power company representative if you have concerns about any power line that you think might be energized or unsafe in any way.

- **THINK! DON'T JUST REACT** - Use the buddy system. Use the safety equipment you have been provided. Use common sense in performing your duties. Look out for each other and **THINK SAFETY!**



North Carolina Air National Guard airmen set up a mobile kitchen to feed about 800 Department of Transportation workers during Operation Fran.



**If you have story ideas about the National Guard men and women serving in Operation Fran, please contact the State Public Affairs Office at (919) 664-6242.**



*The Tarheel*

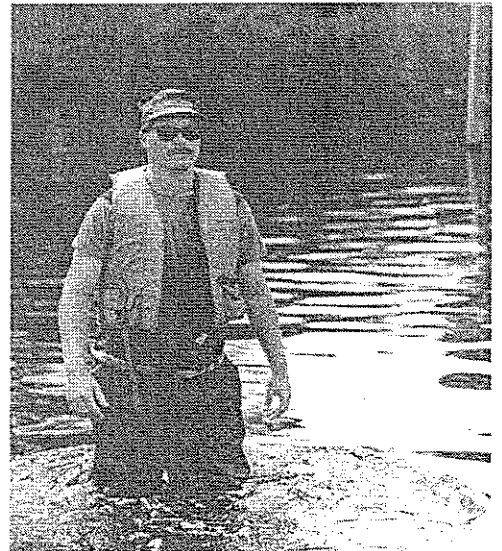
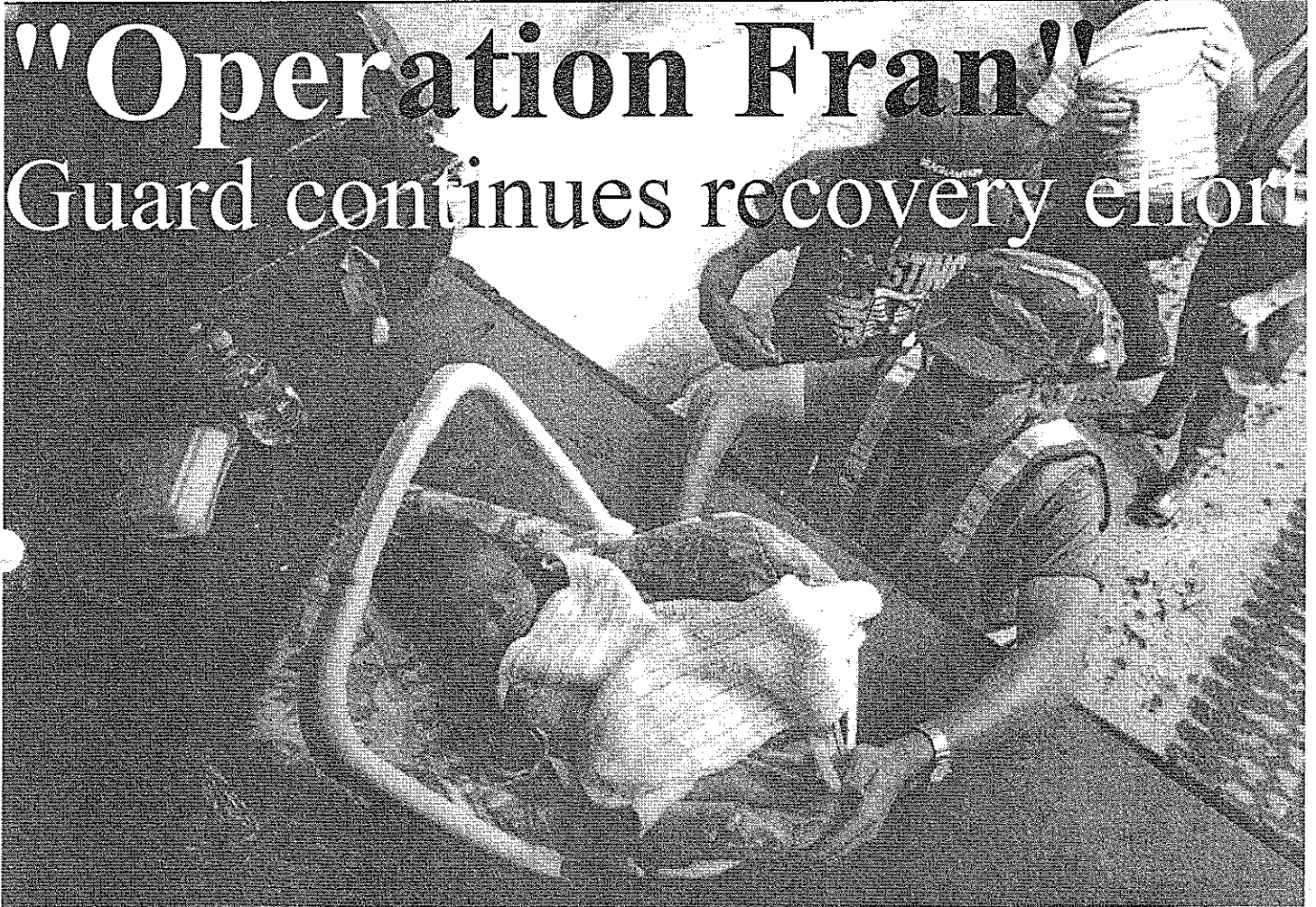
# Minuteman

SPECIAL EDITION

SEPTEMBER 19, 1996

## "Operation Fran"

Guard continues recovery effort





# 30th CSG keeps recovery mission on track

The 30th Corp Support Group served as the nerve center during Operation Fran, coordinating everything from chain saw training and transportation to hot meals and entertainment for troops.

"We provide life support for all military and DOT employees working out of the fairgrounds. We're responsible for overall operational control," said LTC Elbert Buck, Executive Officer for 30th CSG.

Approximately 2,200 people, including 800 DOT workers, set up camp at the N.C. State Fairgrounds while helping to rebuild the Wake County community in the aftermath of Hurricane Fran.

The 30th CSG managed the daily missions of debris removal, which had Guard soldiers clearing trees at more than 90 Wake County schools.

Within 24 hours of Governor Hunt's call for troops, the CSG had set up operations with assets from the 505th Engineer Battalion, 732d Maintenance Company, 1450th Transportation Company, 263d Combat Communications Company and the 122d and

178th Engineers from the South Carolina Guard.

The command and control center was manned around the clock with as many as 25 Guardsmen keeping a finger on the pulse of recovery operations.

"The hours these folks have put in have been unbelievable," said LTC Ronnie Griffin, 30th CSG Operations Officer. "We're not talking your 12-hour day. They've been working more like 18 hours a day."

Buck said units have worked well together to make for a successful experience.

"It's been excellent," he said. "I've not heard a negative comment. I think it's the spirit of people working together."

As well as coordinating the efforts of numerous military units, 30th CSG also worked closely with many civilian agencies including DOT, Carolina Power and Light and others in support of Operation Fran.

"I think it proves that civilian departments and the military can merge together in an emergency crisis and provide comfort and aid to the citizens of North Carolina," Buck said.

## Medics keep soldiers going

Soldiers from Company C, 161st Area Support Medical Battalion were on hand to ensure the health and welfare of thousands of troops called on state active duty for Operation Fran.

As well as operating a troop medical clinic around the clock, members of the 161st, based in Morrisville, accompanied Guardsmen removing debris at local schools in Wake County.

"We were there just in case they needed us," said 1SGT Ted Molchan of Charlie Company.

1LT Michael Lowry said there have been few injuries during Operation Fran, all of which have been minor. "We've had some superficial lacerations ... poison ivy and a lot of aches and pains," Lowry said. "But everyone is being really safe with the equipment. Unit commanders and NCOICs have done a great job of ensuring safety."



**Soldiers from the 694th Maintenance Co help evacuate Dave Delk from a flooded area in Kinston after Hurricane Fran.**

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**The *Tarheel Minutemen* is brought to you by the 382d Public Affairs Det.**

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# State active duty pay gets special attention

One small contingency force has been pooled, in Raleigh, to tackle a big job, and to some the most sacred aspect of Operation Fran...orders, pay and employer relations. Questions about orders and pay were asked early on by the 3000 National Guard soldiers ordered to state active duty.

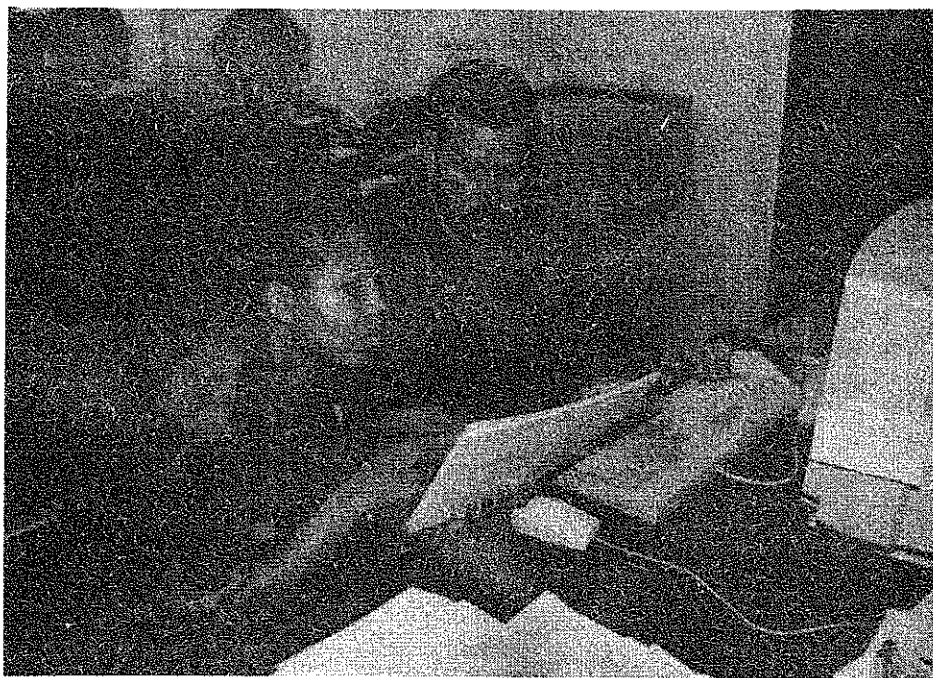
"Hurricane Fran may have created problems for National Guard soldiers and airmen helping with disaster relief who have not received state duty orders for their employers," said MAJ Pete Haithcock, Employer Support for Guard and Reserve Executive Director.

Haithcock said that "units should prepare an official letter or memorandum that states the National Guard has been ordered to duty by Governor James Hunt and that their duty period is "indefinite".

"Military personnel on state active duty who are employed by the state should refer to NC Office of State Personnel Manual, section 8, paragraph 20 which states that military leave for state active duty is to be considered separate from and in addition to all other authorized forms of military leave."

"National Guard personnel having problems should contact MAJ Pete Haithcock at (919) 664-6121 or contact their unit representative," he said. "I want everyone on state active duty to know that their service and sacrifice are appreciated."

As for military pay "Soldiers and airmen serving on state active duty can expect to receive pay based on rank and years of service," said SFC Darryl Mullins,



**SGT Vevaly Richardson, left, and SSG Edgar Cupps cut state active duty orders and make sure NCNG troops get paid for Operation Fran**

State Active Duty Pay Operations Supervisor. "It's the same as the active duty pay scale, however the difference is that the money to pay the orders will come from the state."

"Some People have started receiving checks already," Mullins said. "We want things to go smoothly for these guys and one way to do that is to make sure that everyone's pay is straight."

"If you have a question, you might want to refer to OTAG PAM 500-60, chapter 4, section 4-3 or NCNG Bulletin 11 dated 14 March 1996. If they don't answer your question you can refer to your unit administrator," he said.

"We have 6 soldiers working 2 shifts from 7 in the morning until midnight to get the orders cut and pay submitted on time," he said. "It's tough but the work is getting done"

Mullins and his group of

finance gurus have seen their work load increase from approximately 30 orders a month to 2655 for the 10 days of Operation Fran.

Mullins said that as of Sept. 17 the National Guard has paid out 903,713 of state money. "We've gotten our "order-cutting pace" up to about 600 orders per day" he said.

It goes without saying that the tremendous effort being put forth by the men and women of the National Guard providing disaster relief is only equaled by the effort put forth by their support staff.

**If you have story ideas please contact The Tarheel Minuteman staff at NCNG State PAO at (919) 664-6242**

# Kinston area gets more flooding after Hurricane Fran

Rising waters at Falls Lake in Raleigh forced officials to release water from the lake on Sept. 13 to prevent the dam from bursting.

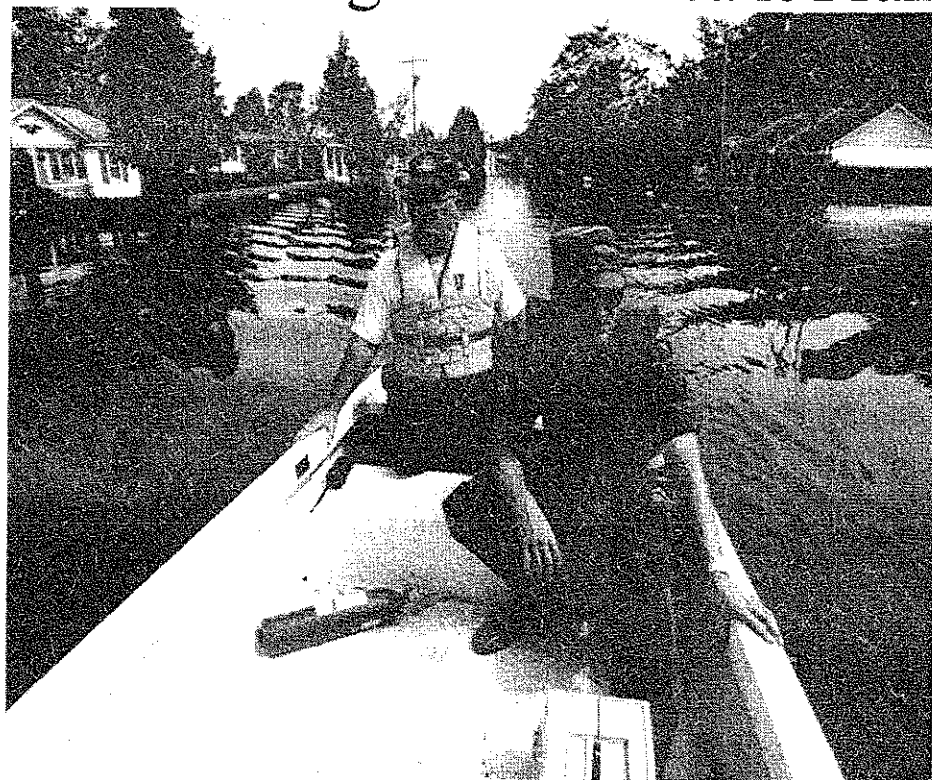
As a result the Neuse River overflowed its banks flooding parts of Kinston, N.C., with over 5 feet of water.

"The water has accumulated also because of rain before, during and after Hurricane Fran," said Capt. Toni Benton, OIC of traffic control and coordinator of traffic safety, from 690th Headquarters Headquarters Detachment out of Kinston.

The National Guard is working with LaGrange and the Pink Hill Rescue department in transporting people to and from their homes who need medication and other necessities.

The guard is also assisting the local law enforcement in controlling the traffic and congestion at seven different points around Kinston. "I am very proud of our people. I know they've been a big help and a tremendous asset to the Sheriff's Department," said Benton.

The traffic control areas encompass Interstate 40 to highways 11 and 258. "We are just trying to



**SSG William Foster, 691st Maintenance Co of Freemont, NC patrols flooded streets in Kinston with Ernest Byrd, Pink Hill Rescue Squad.**

keep people out of the area that do not need to tie up traffic," said SSG Roy Lanier, from the 690th, who was the NCOIC for safety and security at the flooded Rivermont section in Kinston.

Because there is such an abundant amount of work to be done by the National Guard, most guards-

men have been putting in 12 hour days. "I've seen a lot of things happen here, but nothing as destructive as this," said Lanier. "It really hits home since I don't live far from here. It makes me feel good that I can be a part of helping these people," he added.

## Safety is key to Force Protection

**Maj Tom Arrington, State Safety Officer**

The Operation Fran Mission Statement is to provide aid and comfort to the citizens of North Carolina while conducting operations to protect the safety of life and property during the emergency and recovery.

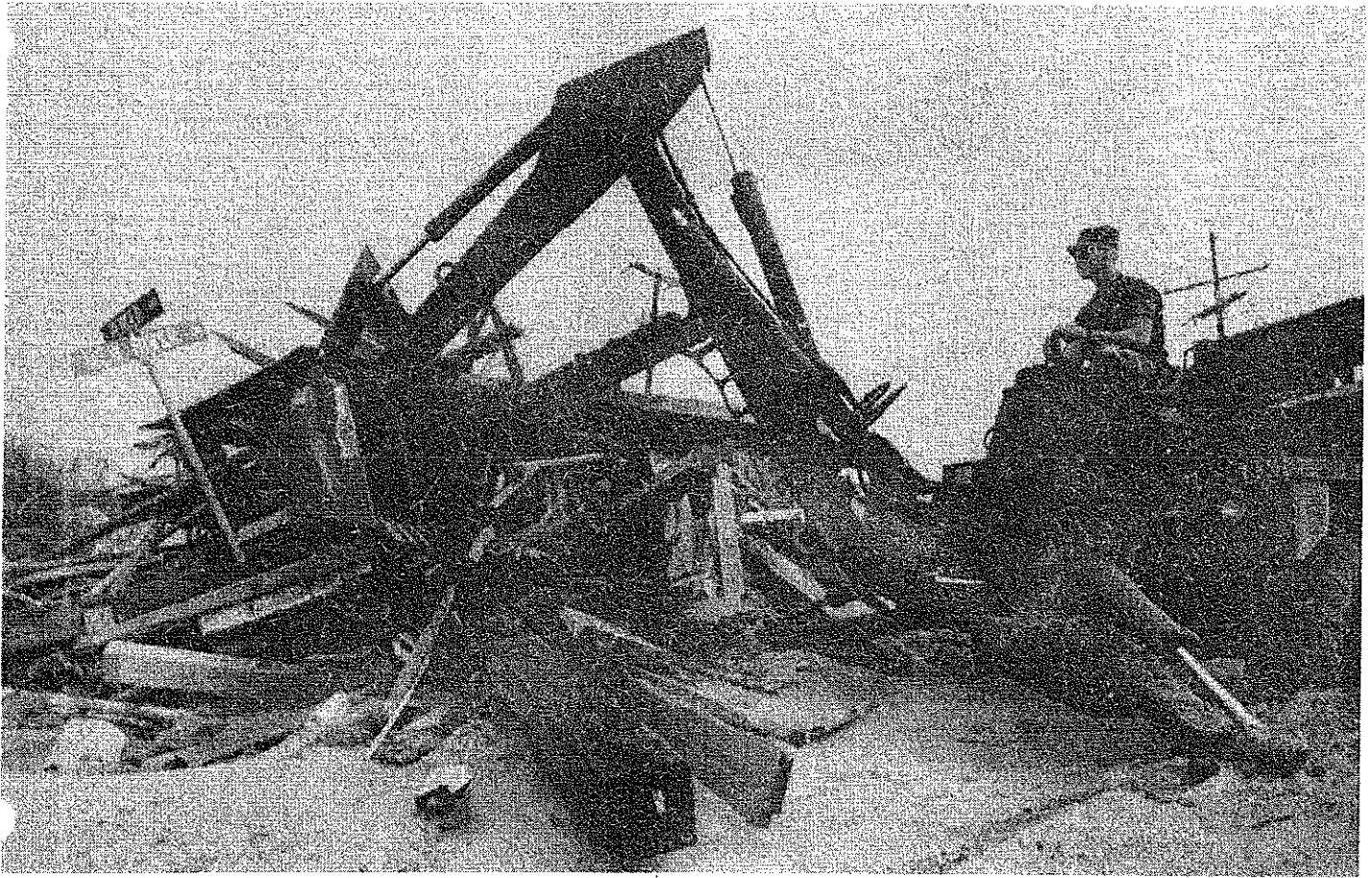
To date, up to 4,028 guardsmen and women have reported for state active duty in 37 counties. You

have performed your duties safely and in an exemplary manner. As of 18 Sep 96, 10 line of duty investigations were reported to the State Safety Office. These LOD's ranged from two laceration incidents caused by chainsaws to bruises, stomach ailments and chest pain. Considering the complexity of the Operation Fran relief, it is an indicator that you, our most valuable asset, are incor-

porating safety into your assigned missions and daily activities. As this operation winds down, take the experiences and lessons learned back to your respective home stations and families. Please continue to use the risk management techniques and safety training you have been using throughout this mission in your daily lives.

The State Safety Office thanks you for your safe performance

# Engineers clear the way at Surf City



**SPC Rodney Prevette, A Company, 505th Engineer Battalion, North Wilksboro, clears debris at Surf City.**

When it comes to clearing and hauling debris tossed around by Hurricane Fran, the 105th and 505th Engineer Battalions are the soldiers to call.

There are more than 65 National Guard troops currently working with civilian contractors and utility workers hauling debris, sand and concrete from Topsail and Surf City beaches.

They are clearing streets and clearing sand and debris around emergency areas like fire hydrants. "We want the fire department to be able to come in and hook up hoses as quickly and as easily as possible in the event that it is needed," said 1st Lt. William Wilkes, Operations Officer for Company B, 105th

Engineer Battalion.

In order to clear the beaches the guardsmen have to work with small excavation equipment such as bulldozers, backhoes and heavy loaders.

"I feel this is what the Guard is for. These people need help and we're obligated to help them as much as possible," said Master Sgt. Bobby Thompson, S-2 Intel Sgt. for the 105th Engineer Battalion from Raeford, N.C.

Another mission the engineers are tackling is constructing protective berms and providing safe transportation onto the island.

"We thought Hurricane Hortense would bring another storm surge, so after Fran we immediately began

building sand dunes," said Wilkes.

In spite of the hot sun, long hours and fatigue, guardsmen from across the state have given their all for the betterment of the state. "I feel fantastic about the work being done by the Guard. I can't tell you how proud I am that a lot of people have come off their daily jobs, taken less money, but have still put forth a tremendous effort to help their fellow citizens," said Wilkes.

Guardsmen aren't the only people that are proud of their efforts, civilians are also. "I'm really glad the guard has come to help us with our clean-up jobs. It has given us a head start," said Robert McHenry, restaurant owner and resident of Surf City.



# Crisis Management Center

## The Tie That Binds National Guard Troops and community

Deep within the halls of the North Carolina Military Center in Raleigh flows tremendous energy, unity of effort, and the spirit to achieve. This collective will belongs to the members assigned to the NC National Guard Crisis Management Center (CMC).

The Crisis Management Center was activated Sept. 4 to respond to the many needs of NC citizens in the aftermath of Hurricane Fran. Under the command of COL Robert Goss, Plans Operations Training Officer, the CMC represents the vital link between the State Emergency Response Team and National Guard units performing support missions to restore Eastern North Carolina's equilibrium.

Like carpenter ants rebuilding a damaged hill, soldiers and airmen move with a single purpose in mind - To fulfill mission requests for ultimate restoration of public infrastructure. From the watchful eye of the CMC security desk-sergeant to the outstretched hand of the Operations NCO updating the situation board, duty abounds within the converted classroom.

To fully appreciate the climate within these four walls, one must peek around the columns of makeshift partitions arranged to provide each cell some measure of ownership and privacy. Each cubicle is represented with subject matter experts laboring to complete the many tasks given to them. Orchestrating these activities to a polished finish are the shift Officers In Charge.

"Although there was initial confusion, the efficiency level and quality of soldiers and airmen



have made me proud to be a small part of this operation," COL James Sikes, 449th Aviation Commander (CMC shift supervisor) said.

"Cooperation has been Great. It is amazing when the chips are down how people pull together," said SGM Steve Blackwood, former National Guard Bureau Command Sergeant Major. "Morale has been outstanding. There is an attitude in the CMC that there is nothing we can't do from the Specialist pulling reports to the Colonel overseeing operations."

A new addition to the CMC is major command liaisons. These liaisons have been vital members

to the success of the operation.

"They have been the linchpins that have made this work," Blackwood said.

One of the liaisons assigned is CPT John Byrd, a State Bureau of Investigations Agent in Raleigh and Assistant S-3 for 30th Mechanized Infantry Brigade (Separate) in Clinton.

"The plan is there and has worked" Byrd said as he fills out a request for debris removal.

As Air National Guard representatives complete C-130 Aviation requests and logisticians order supplies for the force, CW5 Gary Bullard said "We must be very creative, resourceful, and save the Government money". LTC Ken Keith, Maintenance Officer added "We are busting buns to supply beans and backhoes to support the soldiers in the field

The CMC will be in operation as long as missions continue and support is needed.



# Saluting the Troops

When we were needed, we were there. The men and women of the National Guard have much to be proud of. In a time of crisis, they pulled together to help rebuild a community ravaged by natural disaster. Hats off to the hundreds of citizen soldiers who answered the call.



On 5 September, Hurricane Fran swept through the state of North Carolina leaving a path of destruction in her wake. The fifth disaster in one year, Fran's fury affected the lives of more than half of North Carolina's citizens.

Responding to a call to duty by Governor James B. Hunt, over 3,000 men and women of the National Guard left their homes and jobs to be a part of a massive recovery effort — helping to rebuild Carolina communities and restore life to normal.

Soldiers and airmen from across the state responded quickly and professionally in a time of crisis. Good neighbors from National Guard units in Florida, Kentucky, South Carolina, Alabama and Georgia joined in our effort to provide aid and comfort to the citizens of North Carolina.

The dedication and steadfast commitment our troops have had for their mission has been outstanding. Morale has remained high, and the spirit of teamwork exhibited over the past two weeks has surpassed my expectations.

Despite personal hardships, you mobilized in the spirit of helping people in need. For that and for your continued commitment to your state and country, I thank you.

Sincerely,

*Gerald A. Rudisill, Jr.*

"I'm not surprised at the outstanding manner in which our soldiers and airmen responded to the emergencies caused by Hurricane Fran. A crisis like this reminds us of the true meaning of the citizen soldier.

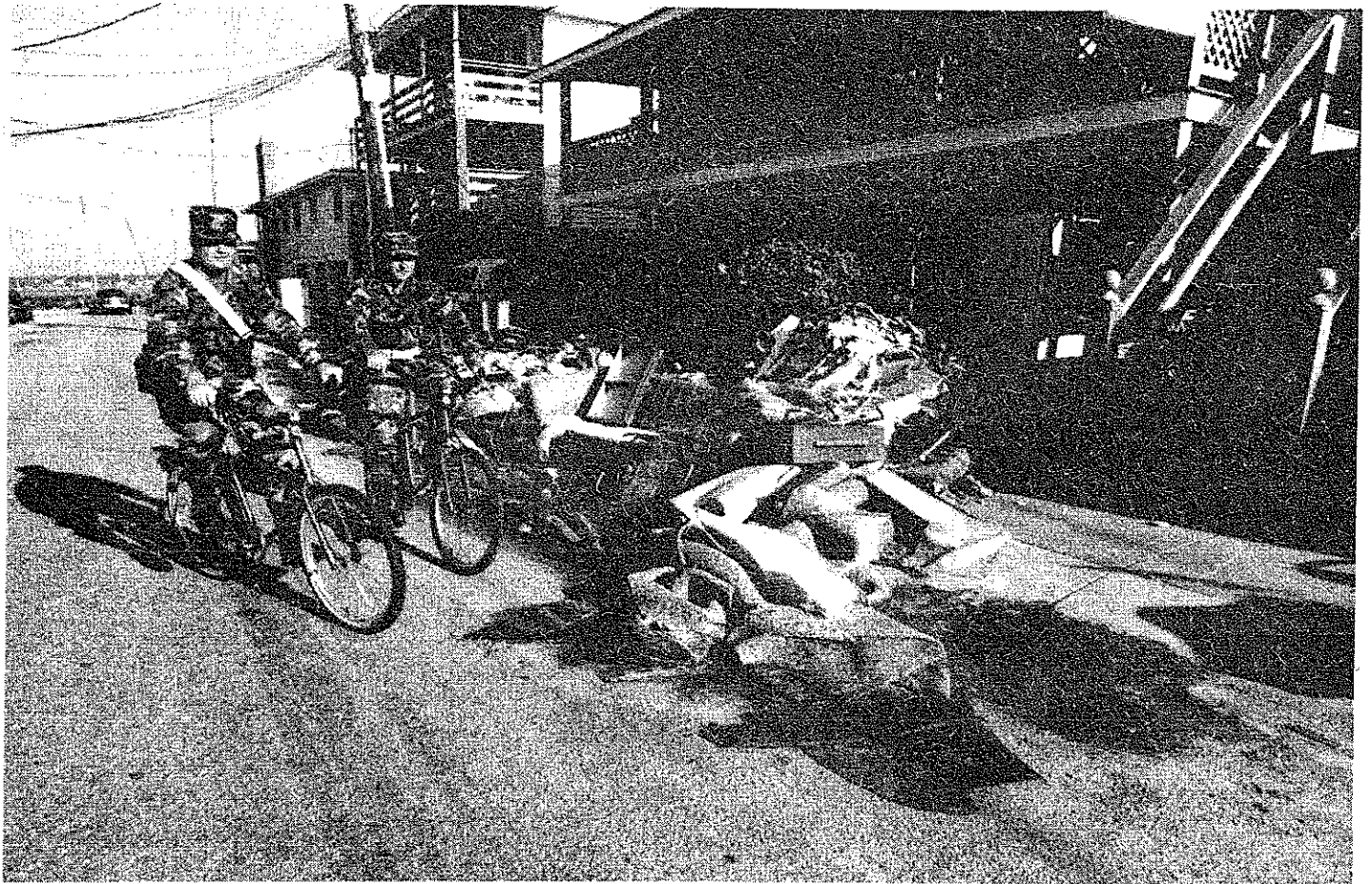
Missions have been executed with pride and heart felt care for our fellow citizens.

I want to personally thank all of our soldiers, airmen and their families for their positive attitudes and the sacrifices they made. I am proud to be one of you!"

--Norman Walker, State Command Sergeant Major  
North Carolina Army National Guard

"I've never met a finer group of people. I appreciate the Guard's help more than words can express."

— Nick Harrison, Building and Grounds,  
Wake County Schools



## "Operation *Fran*" Snapshots

